

December 3, 1990

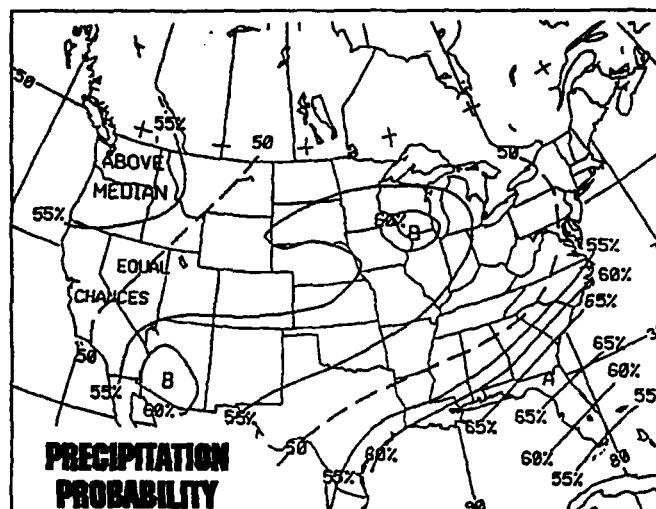
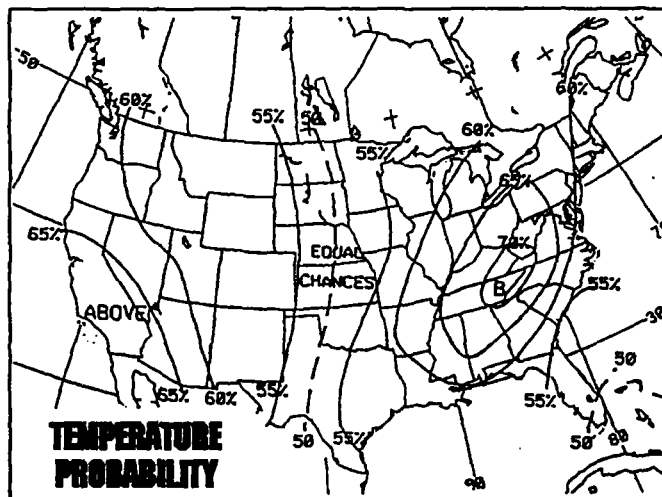
Cold Winter in the East, Mild in West Predicted

Expect a generally cold winter in the eastern United States and predominantly mild conditions over the western half of the nation, a NOAA meteorologist said this week at the annual Winter Weather Outlook briefing in Washington.

Dr. Robert Livezey, principal scientist of the Predictions Branch, at the Climate Analysis Center (part of NOAA's National Weather Service), put the chances of below normal temperatures this winter at 55 percent or greater for the West Gulf region and all areas east of the Mississippi River, except the Florida Peninsula and immediate coastline of Georgia and South Carolina.

The odds for relatively cold weather rise to as high as 60 percent between the interior coastal Atlantic plain and the lower half of the Mississippi Valley extending south from Lake Erie to the Central Gulf coast. The chances for excessively cold weather are as high as 70 percent in an area centered over the Southern Appalachians.

Above normal temperatures are expected with at least a 55 percent probability from the high plains westward to the Pacific Coast. Within this region the likelihood of unusually mild winter weather is more than 60 percent over western Washington state, Oregon and most of the Southwest—rising to 65 percent over southern and central California and southwestern Arizona.



Winter Weather: Maps from the NOAA Weather Service show a colder east and a warmer west are predicted, with the western drought easing.

continued on page 2

Just in Time for the Holidays

NOAA Opens Gift Shop in Silver Spring

What to give the oceanographer who has everything? Or that hard-to-fit meteorologist? The new NOAA Gift Shop may have the answer.

The store, on the second floor of the Silver Spring Metro Center's Building 2, will stock merchandise with the NOAA

logo and other environmentally-oriented items including posters, t-shirts, cards, lapel pins and coffee mugs. Profits from the shop, which is operated by the NOAA Employees Association, will be used to sponsor a variety of employee

continued on page 3

Coming Events

- American Geophysical Union Meeting in San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 7.
- US-USSR Bilateral on Protection of the Environment Meeting of Working Group VII to Discuss Climate Change in Leningrad, USSR, Jan. 6-16, 1991.

Active Hurricane Season Spares Mainland U.S.

The official 1990 hurricane season, which ended November 30, was the most active in 20 years, but only one of the big storms struck the U.S., according to the NOAA Weather Service's National Hurricane Center (NWS).

However, the agency cautioned that although the season is over, major storms still could occur.

From June 1 to Nov. 30, NWS announced, 14 tropical cyclones received names, and eight of them matured into hurricanes, but only tropical storm Marco hit the U.S. mainland. In an average year, 10 storms are named in the Atlantic Basin, six becoming hurricanes and two of the hurricanes striking the U.S.

1990 Atlantic Hurricane Season

Dates	Names	Status	Deaths	Winds
Jul 22-27	Arthur	TS	0	70 mph
Jul 24-Aug 2	Bertha	H	9	80
Jul 31-Aug 7	Cesar	TS	0	50
Aug 4-9	Diana	H	96	100
Aug 6-11	Edouard	TS	0	45
Aug 11-14	Fran	TS	0	40
Aug 24-Sep 3	Gustav	H	0	120
Aug 25-31	Hortense	TS	0	65
Sep 4-17	Isadore	H	0	100
Sep 21-Oct 6	Josephine	H	0	85
Oct 3-9	Klaus	H	4	80
Oct 6-15	Lili	H	0	75
Oct 9-13	Marco	TS	7	65
Oct 17-21	Nana	H	0	85

TS-Thunderstorm H-Hurricane

Small Beginnings

The season started quietly. June 1990 was a calm month over the North Atlantic, Caribbean Sea and the Gulf of Mexico. But in July, two tropical cyclones formed in the Atlantic Basin. The first, Arthur, reached tropical storm

strength near the southern Windward Islands and weakened to a tropical wave. In late July, Bertha became the first hurricane of the year over the open Atlantic. Twenty seven crew members of a Greek freighter abandoned ship after reporting that the ship was breaking up. Six crew members died; twenty one were rescued. Nine people drowned as a result of Bertha.

Tropical cyclone activity was above normal in August, with four tropical storms and two hurricanes. Diana, the year's second hurricane, reached that status on August 7 before it struck near Tuxpan, Mexico. Diana reintensified after moving away from the Yucatan Peninsula into the Bay of Campeche. Unofficial reports indicate that nearly 100 people died and scores were missing as a result of mudslides and flooding.

Gusty Gustav

Gustav, the season's third hurricane, was the only one with maximum winds exceeding 100 mph. Gustav's winds reached 120 mph while located

Winter Weather Outlook

continued from page 1

Elsewhere, temperature forecast probabilities do not depart significantly from climatological values.

The Rain, Explained

Above median precipitation is predicted for two areas of the nation, Livezey added. The chances of more than usual moisture for the Pacific Northwest as well as along the Gulf and south Atlantic coasts including all of Florida are 55 percent. Within the south Atlantic coastal area, the likelihood for relatively wet winter is as high as 65 percent over northern Florida and southern Georgia.

Below median precipitation is expected with at least a 55 percent chance within an area

extending from interior southern California eastward across Arizona and New Mexico and then northeastward across most of Oklahoma and Kansas to the northern half of Mississippi Valley. Within this area the probability for a relatively dry winter is 60 percent over southern Arizona and southern Wisconsin.

Elsewhere, precipitation forecast probabilities do not depart significantly from climatological values.

Press Covers Event

The briefing, held in the Hoover building's main auditorium, drew press coverage from most major print and broadcast news operations, including CBS, NBC, the Associated Press, the Washington Post, and local television stations. ★

continued on page 3

Active Hurricane Season Spares Mainland U.S.

continued from page 2

about 200 miles east of the Leeward Islands before turning north to open water. Although it was the only so-called major hurricane of the 1990 season, it caused no deaths or damage.

Through August, the 1990 Atlantic season had a total of eight tropical storms and hurricanes--the highest number before September 1 in a single year since 1936. But September, usually the most active month, produced only one hurricane, Isidore, and one tropical storm, Josephine, which reached hurricane strength in October.

Four hurricanes and one

tropical storm made October the most active month since 1969. Klaus became a hurricane on October 5 when its center was about 30 miles east of Antigua. It dissipated on October 9 as the incipient circulation of tropical storm Marco absorbed its center. Klaus's remnants however, brought heavy rainfall and four deaths across parts of south-eastern U.S.

Marco was the only one to bring tropical storm conditions to the U.S. mainland. It became a tropical storm on October 10 when it was about 30 miles south of Key West, Florida. It then moved north, hugging the west coast of Florida with much of its circulation over land. NOAA's

National Hurricane Center counts Marco as a "hit" because the inner circulation and maximum winds were over land in the St. Petersburg area. The last year that the United States went without a tropical storm or hurricane striking the mainland was exactly 100 years earlier, in 1890.

Marco Rains Over Ga.

Marco and its remnants brought heavy rains over Georgia and the Carolinas, previously inundated by the remainder of Klaus. A total of seven flood and flash flood deaths are attributed to Marco. Total damage from the flooding is estimated at \$57 million, mostly in Georgia. South Carolina and Florida also reported flooding and damage. Marco went inland as a depression at Cedar Key, Florida. ☼

Alaskans Look South: Alaskan at-sea pollock processors may turn their attention to Pacific whiting off the coasts of Washington, Oregon and California next April and May, between pollock seasons. Current requests from the processing fleet exceed the current coastline quota for 1991. Shore based whiting processors in the area, who

have taken less than five percent of the whiting quota each year since 1978, are afraid that the factory fleets will take up all the whiting, leaving them little for later.

NOAA Issues Climate CD:

Need all the seasonal and monthly records for temperature, precipitation and drought for the past 105 years? Normally, information like that would take up a room of books, or a stack of

microfiche cards. But NOAA has crammed all that information on a compact disc, similar to the ones you put in your home stereo. The CD, *National Climate Information System*, won't climb to the top of the pop charts, but it will allow you to view the information graphically, in

time loops and multi-

image screens, on a computer with a CD drive. NOAA is making the disk, which can be read but not written to, available to the educational and global change research community for the minimum cost of reproduction and distribution. A typical compact disk can store a minimum of 600 megabytes of information--the same as 1,800 standard computer disks. ☼

NOAA NOTES

NOAA Opens Gift Shop

continued from page 1

recreational activities. The association hopes the store will also bolster employee morale.

Employee-Run

The new store will have its official opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Thursday, December 6. NOAA's Deputy Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere Gray Castle will present a plaque to the Employee Association's president, Floyd Smith and cut the red ribbon in recognition of the opening. The shop will be open weekdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Plans are also underway for more NOAA shops in other major NOAA facilities, as well as a catalog service, so NOAA employees outside of the Washington area can take advantage of this unique gift-giving idea. ☼

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

ERRATA NOTICE

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages

Faded or light ink

Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or Library.Reference@noaa.gov

HOV Services
Imaging Contractor
12200 Kiln Court
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387
July 23, 2010